

## New York Tribune.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 1913.

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## Mayor Gaynor's Remedy Is to Run in the Democratic Primaries.

It is hard to see on what grounds Mr. R. Ross Appleton and the other Gaynor Leaguers are going to justify an independent Gaynor candidacy. If the Mayor is to be put into the field as an anti-Tammany candidate, anxious above all things to save the city from four years of Tammany misrule, he will never get through explaining why by his candidacy he seeks to divide the anti-Tammany strength, just as it was divided four years ago for his own benefit by the rival anti-Tammany candidacies of Bannard and Hearst.

If vengeance on Murphy is what Mr. Gaynor seeks, the poorest possible way to obtain it would be to split the anti-Murphy vote. On the other hand, if the Mayor and his friends contend that they are actuated only by a sincere desire to protect the community and to promote the cause of good government, they have only to look at the example of patriotic disinterestedness set by Mr. Whitman and Mr. McAneny to see the course marked out for any genuine opponent of Murphyism in the present crisis. No good citizen can be excused for doing anything just now which either directly or indirectly will strengthen Murphy's hands.

Mr. Gaynor and his Leaguers have, moreover, a principle to live up to. The Mayor four years ago decided the idea that he was a Tammany candidate. He claimed that Tammany was only a local organization in the Borough of Manhattan and that he had received his nomination from the enrolled Democrats of all the boroughs. Mr. Appleton revived that argument recently, saying that Tammany was merely a "nickname" and that its leaders had no power to name Democratic candidates for city offices.

If that is so, why should Mr. Gaynor, as a Democrat, submit to the personal decree of Murphy? Why should he not seek a nomination in the Democratic primary which is soon to select a municipal ticket? His own logic and that of his supporters compel an appeal to the great body of Democratic voters which he and they allege to constitute a political entity entirely outside Tammany Hall. The Mayor would "make good" on a vast amount of hair-splitting argumentation if he should enter the Democratic primary and win an anti-Tammany Democratic nomination.

Should he defeat Mr. McCall under such circumstances he would be doing an important public service, besides vindicating himself as a political philosopher. He would be anti-Tammany in a way which would put Murphy out of business. But in running independently he would be anti-Tammany only in a way which might injure to Murphy's glory and profit.

## No International "Big Stick."

The most interesting feature of last week's twentieth Universal Peace Congress at The Hague was the practical rejection of the proposal for creating a supernational police force to impose peace, fulfillment of treaties and other conditions upon recalcitrant states. It was put forward with much ability by Mr. van Vollenhoven, a Dutch delegate, but the president of the congress himself strongly opposed it, the American and British delegates generally took the same side and it was laid upon the shelf, for consideration in some future year.

This we believe to have been wise, though it might have been wiser to reject the scheme outright. There can be little doubt that the most thoughtful and enlightened sentiment of the world is against the establishment of a system which at its best would impair national sovereignty and which at its worst would be an agency of monstrous injustice and oppression. The moral responsibility of wielding such an international "big stick" would be so great that all nations might well shrink from it, while there would be little less than a certainty of dissatisfaction with and if possible resistance to its operations.

The truer plan is to maintain the equal sovereignty of nations and to educate them, officially and popularly, to a higher plane, on which they will instinctively seek peace instead of war and will as a matter of course observe scrupulously their international obligations, even though it be to their own loss. An attempt to inculcate peace by forcibly violating patriotism would be foredoomed to failure.

## The Conference of Governors.

An interesting comparison might be drawn between the ideals of the "House of Governors" which were put forward a few years ago at the time of the first national conference of state executives and the realities of this week's gathering at Colorado Springs. There was talk of an authoritative organization, perhaps under some constitutional provision, which should make the "House of Governors" an essential part of the government equally with the houses of Congress. It ended in talk, and the meetings have continued to be purely voluntary and unauthoritative conferences, but they have not therefore declined in interest or lacked profit.

On the contrary, a substantial increase in both respects is to be perceived. The leading topics for this week's meeting, for example, are emphatically practical and timely; and while the results of the conference will have no statutory force they can scarcely fail to have an instructive and helpful influence upon those who participate in the gathering, and through them upon the administrative and legislative officers of all the states—even, we should hope, of New York, despite the lamentable conditions which debar it from representation at the conference.

On several highly important subjects model statutes are to be prepared and adopted by the con-

ference for submission to the legislatures of the states for enactment. If, as seems probable, they shall be widely accepted and adopted, the states will enjoy the double advantage of having laws drafted by such a consensus of high authorities and of having among themselves an increasing uniformity of legislation. This will not be the least of the good fruits of the Governors' Conference.

## Oscar, Trust Buster.

The average citizen wouldn't put "grand" opera on a plane with tin plate or steel rails. Yet the Only Oscar says it is, in denouncing the opera trust at the Metropolitan. It is a sad tale he tells in his answer to the Metropolitan's suit to prevent him from giving opera this winter. Never did a government suit against an octopus bristle with more grisly details of knife-keen competition than his allegations of stars stolen by the Metropolitan, contracts broken because of higher salaries, territory closed to him, and, when he was forced to quit, the deterioration of opera and increase of prices.

There may or may not be an opera trust in the eyes of the law. But Oscar's previous venture into the music world furnished proof positive of the benefits of competition, even in the field of art. Oscar is a force too valuable to lose, whether in busting trusts or presenting new singers to an interested city.

## Huerta and the Message.

General Huerta is wise if he is so impressed by the prospect of a Presidential message to Congress that he is reconsidering and is inclined to regard more seriously the admonitions of our government. To what extent he has been depending upon divided counsels here is matter for speculation. There is unfortunately ground in our history for the notion that foreign relations are sometimes made subjects of partisan dissension.

But if General Huerta has been cherishing any such notion for his comfort in this case he has made a big mistake. In spite of the impression which may have been given by the American Ambassador to Mexico, Congress and the nation are substantially united in approval of the cardinal points of the President's policy, to wit: No recognition; no intervention if it is possible to avoid it; an urging of a constitutional election of President at an early date, and a strict holding of the actual government of Mexico to accountability for whatever befalls American citizens in that country. If there is any considerable divergence from that policy, it is in a direction still less favorable to General Huerta.

## Thaw Methods in Canada.

Dispatches from Canada speak of the attempt, through the employment of counsel, to exert political influence in Thaw's behalf. That is the regular Thaw method.

In this state brothers of judges have been retained as counsel for the madman in the vain hope that they would be favored by other members of the bench. "Political lawyers," attorneys for political leaders whom the Attorney General might wish to conciliate, have acted in these proceedings. Counsel before entering an appearance in Thaw's behalf have endeavored to cultivate an acquaintance with judges before whom the case was to be brought. Everything possible was done, unavailingly, to debase the courts with "pull."

If Canada is wise she will get rid of the noxious mess now on her hands as soon as possible. If there is anything rotten in her judicial system the Thaw money will reveal it.

## New Times, New Customs in the Force.

Can it be that Police Commissioner Waldo's investigation of the police departments of European capitals really did have an effect on him, after all? His present course of conduct is shockingly unlike his previous record. It is quite unprecedented for him to head raiding parties on suspected gambling houses. It is even more unprecedented for him to strip the shields off suspected grafters in the department with his own fair hand, and suspend them peremptorily.

It was not like that in the olden days. Then accusations against a member of the force were turned over to the individual himself for investigation. The Commissioner kept "office hours" and didn't disturb the force o' nights. There was outward order and decency in sixty-seven varieties. Too intimate acquaintance with foreign habits and customs sometimes produces degeneration in our sturdy American stock. It would be sad indeed to think that Waldo was a victim.

## Mr. Bryan as a Currency Conservative.

When Mr. Bryan has to protect the country from wild currency legislation it may be seen how precarious the situation is. Probably nothing much better than the administration bill can be expected from a Congress like the present one, in which the 16 to 1 candidate exercises a conservative influence.

It is to be hoped, however, that Mr. George M. Reynolds is right in believing that before this bill is passed the administration will make concessions to the banks, reducing the number of sectional reserve institutions, strengthening the advisory council and taking the federal reserve board out of politics. These changes would remove the most marked defects of the administration measure. Let us hope they will be acceptable to Mr. Bryan. He should pay some regard to the views of the bankers as expressed in their action at Chicago yesterday, whose purpose was not to oppose the Glass bill but to improve it.

The bill has been improved since its introduction. With some more changes for the better it may be accepted as a tentative measure leading toward full currency reform and a central bank.

## The Vanishing R.

Here in the effete east of America the sturdy letter "r" has dwindled to a shadow of its former self. It is still useful at the beginning of a word—and it keeps the oyster season straight. Otherwise it is fading rapidly.

In effete London, the poor thing seems already dead and forgotten. The dictionary makers ignore it. And in that conservative English town "Nineteenth Century," the Right Hon. Viscount Harberton fairly jeers at the idea of pronouncing it. He is writing scoffingly of all poetry and is especially short with the race of "conventional" rhymes, such as "wind" poetically distorted to mate with "find." And to clinch his argument that most poets have wretched ears he cites the case of "awe" and "war."

Does any one wish to rhyme these two words? Immediately the critics cry, "No, no, no! Horrible! It is a cockney rhyme." Yet, maintains Lord Harberton, the two words "awe" and "war" sound exactly alike, and if that isn't rhyme what is? To prove

that the "r" is silent as in "war" he cites a variety of poets with ears, as for instance:

She is the Belle of New York,  
Subject of all the Town talk.

Or if you prefer Swinburne:

As, when late larks give warning  
Of dying lights, and dawning,  
Night murmurs to the morning,  
Lie still, O love, lie still.

Mother Goose was notoriously free and easy in her rhymes, yet there is surely nothing wrong with the sound of the following:

Ride a cock-horse  
To Banbury Cross,  
To see an old lady ride on a white horse.

Finally, to all doubters, the writer issues this challenge: Repeat to a class quietly, as if talking to them:

I trace the evil odour from the source,  
I trace the evil odour from the source.

Could any one tell the difference? Never in England, says Viscount Harberton. And how often in New York?

"So this is Tammany Hall"—and its ticket!

Another rich woman in the tolls for smuggling. When will overthrifty foreign shoppers learn that it never pays to try to short change Uncle Sam?

Has "pandering to public sentiment" become a lost art in Tammany Hall?

"The London Law Journal" is certainly right in holding that a murderous maniac ought not to be exempt from extradition.

Fitness would be made complete by Tammany's putting the tiger on its ballot as an emblem.

Even with the Kaiser's favor, lemonade cannot be expected to be as popular on the Chautauque circuit as Bryanized grape juice.

Under the circumstances, Thaw's Canadian counsel should worry.

## AS I WAS SAYING

Guiltily! When cries of "Oyez! Oyez!" interrupted our labors last evening, and a deputation from the lawyers burst in, armed with torts, veners, mortuaries, habes thawsups and nice, clean, well aired changes of venue, we were not surprised. In preparing our daily feasts of reason we had slighted the law. Wea culpa!

But we are now repentant, and shall make amends by proffering a particularly appetizing slice of law, hot from the iron:

"Upon information and belief that at about 9-15 p. m., on July 9, 1913, the plaintiff was served at his request with a cup of coffee and beef stew, which was properly prepared, cooked and served, and which at the time of serving did not contain any mouse or part thereof; and that, after plaintiff had eaten a considerable portion of stew, then plaintiff himself placed the mouse complained of in the said stew."

May it please the court, we shall say nothing to joggle the scales of justice, though we permit ourself an obiter dictum:

"Help us, we depose and swear that the herein before mentioned mouse, whether put, placed, smuggled or otherwise inveigled into the said stew by the said restaurateur or his agent or agents or any part thereof, or put, placed, lodged, snared or bred in the said stew by the said plaintiff or his heirs and assigns forever, dead or alive, for better or for worse, at random, world without end, was an unfriendly act, regrettable, inharmonious and subversive of all right thinking. God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts!"

"I certainly do not," exclaimed sweet Evelyn, when asked if she reciprocated her husband's undying affection. "I love him just as much as he loves me. He loves me like a priest loves the Devil."

We consider this sentiment too sacred for frivolous comment, but could wish the grammar a bit more conventional. Guess it is not only among the college boys for money, are denying every one the beauty of these mountains for all time. Why should such a thing be allowed in a state like New York? Why cannot something be done to save our Storm King and other mountains before it is too late? The Indian Head was blasted away. This vandalism is a disgrace to our nation. Could not this land be made a state park, or a bird refuge? The mountains should be our pride and joy. Don't treat them as we have our birds. Now we can never bring back the wild pigeon and other birds killed off by game laws and vandals. Now, when it is game laws to save them, we have passed a law to protect the few we have left. The committee that vetoed the bill preventing

"Warning!" cries M. A. Van Allen in "The Woman's Home Companion." "Do not put the cart before the horse nor the baby carriage before the automobile." Excellent, if taken literally. If taken figuratively, what needless advice! Up, automobilists! Resist this insult!

Another bottle closed! Scarcely have we noted the awful effects of grape juice, when dreadful things come out about lime juice. Already this baleful beverage has disrupted the Clonian Literary Society, at Whitestone, Queens, which "got along finely until some one brought a bottle of lime juice to a meeting."

Since then "about half the members have paid no attention to the subject. The climax came last week, when a lime juice drinker lay on his back and laughed right in the middle of a serious speech."

Scandalous! Unless—but we banish that unholy thought!

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Yes, protest seems useless. And yet the whole text and content of a book called "The New Freedom" stands for the very opposite of just such wrong—wrong marked of present disaster, unnecessary and senseless disaster, that may visit upon our own dear American boys in the Philippines and on those good enough little Filipino fellows that go wrong only when they are not rightly governed.

Perhaps I am justified in supposing that this deplorable doing has all been effected more by order of the most world peace policy than by the President's own initiative. But this lily notion of world peace as being obtainable by virtue of United States machine politics, even as by the more or less secret police machinations of our most prominent politician of the day, is not a notion of any real account, because it is not in its own lean merit plainly idiotic, and therefore it is not a thing that the wide world wants, even as a suggestion from people who let the infernal tentacles of a local octopus called Tammany reach into the very White House itself and entwine, yes, paralyze for the nonce, the hand of our Chief Executive, so that he names for a vitally important governorship an individual whom politicians, both here and in the Philippines, can "work" even to renewed hostilities, whereby fine American boys and clean men in the regular service there shall meet death as by cold murder in sunlit skirmishes, being deliberately shot from their saddles, as was that man of men, our loved General Lawton, who repeatedly had said that if he so died it would be owing to the ignorant interference in affairs by "practical politicians" whose self-seeking do irreparable mischief.

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New York, Aug. 22, 1913.

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